#### contents

- I. ~ december 1998 january 1999
- **RUTHLESS RADIANCE**
- 1. volcano 3
- 2. the unmasking 8
- 3. mother 11
- 4. descent 12
- 5. psalm 13
- II ~ february 1999
- THE RED THREAD
- 1. the red thread 19
- 2. mother 20
- 3. dialogue 23
- 4. the red thread again 27
- 5. riddles 29
- III ~ february march 1999
- DEATHS, TRANSFIGURATIONS
- 1. fire 33
- 2. blood 37
- 3. earth: the shekhinah as amnesiac 38
- 4. time 41

# IV ~ march – april 1999

#### **COVENANT**

- 1. preparing for passover 45
- 2. during the bombing of Kosovo 49
- 3. question and answer 51
- 4. the wheel 52

V ~ may – june 1999

## THE MOTHER

- 1. eyesight 59
- 2. our mothers: a correspondence 61

VI ~ june 1999

#### **ILLUSION**

- 1. cinema 69
- 2. cretan interlude: lasithi plateau 70

VII ~ september 1999

#### TURN AND RETURN

- 1. the poet in me says 75
- 2. days of awe 80

VIII ~ october – november 1999

## THE VOLCANO AND THE COVENANT

- 1. the volcano breathes 87
- 2. psalm 37: the meek shall inherit the earth 90
- 3. I decide to call you Being 91

- 4. interlude: the avenue of the americas 93
- 5. toward the millennium 97
- 6. predawn 99

IX ~ undated poems

# THE SPACE OF THIS DIALOGUE

- 1. psalm 103
- 2. seasonal 107
- 3. dark smile 109
- 4. aperture 115

coda 119

glossary 121

acknowledgements 123